GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2001
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2015
SARDP-NE
Adhikari Shri Sisir Kumar;Tasa Shri Kamakhya Prasad

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the Special Accelerated Road Development Programme of North East (SARDP-NE) along with funds allocated/sanctioned including targets fixed/achieved during the last three years, State-wise including Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government proposes to lay down any other policy for the development of roads in the North Eastern Region and the areas prone to natural disasters;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the details of roads/national highways damaged in North Eastern Region due to natural disasters including the extent to which they have been relaid, State-wise;

(d) whether the pace of work on East West Corridor project in Assam and the second bridge being constructed over Brahmaputra River at Saraighat has been reported to be slow; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the current status of the aforesaid works including the action taken to ensure cost escalation and time overrun of the project?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a) The salient features of the Special Accelerated Road Development Programme of North East (SARDP-NE) are (i) upgrade National Highways connecting State Capitals to 2/ 4 lane; (ii) to provide connectivity of 88 District Headquarter towns of NER by at least 2-lane road; (iii) improve roads of strategic importance in border area; and (iv) improve connectivity to neighboring countries.

Targets and allocation are not fixed State wise under SARDP-NE. However the length of roads sanctioned & completed and the details of funds allocated year wise along with expenditure are at Annexure-I.

(b) No madam.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) & (e) Yes madam. The slow pace of work on East West Corridor project in Assam has been due to problems in land acquisition, utility shifting by local bodies, tree cutting, frequent bandhs, poor law and order condition, ROB clearance, inadequate deployment of manpower and machinery by contractor in certain cases, forest clearance, frequent restrictions imposed by local administration for collection of construction materials etc., The total length of East-West Corridor Project in Assam is about 670 km, out of which 580 km have already been completed. National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is making all efforts for resolving all issues with help of Govt. of Assam for completion of the remaining length of East-West Corridor by December, 2016.

The construction of bridge over Brahmaputra River at Saraighat has been delayed due to delay in shifting of oil pipeline and change in design of main bridge and increase in scope due to additional works at Jalukbari junction constructing of a signal free crossing in place of a grade separator envisaged earlier. NHAI is making all efforts for resolving all issues with help of Govt. of Assam for completion of the project by August, 2016.